- (a) determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text;
- ([a] b) collecting context information regarding [a] the location of [a] the cursor in the electronic document by:

if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text;

otherwise, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor;

- ([b] c) selecting one of a plurality of rules based on the collected context information;
- ([c] \underline{d}) in response to selecting the rule, changing a presentation of the cursor to indicate an anticipated location of the insertion point and [the] \underline{a} type of formatting that will be applied to text and objects located in close proximity to the cursor location;
- ([d] e) determining whether an indication has been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document; and
- ([e] \underline{f}) if so, then performing formatting to place the insertion point in the electronic document.
- 4. (Amended) The method recited in Claim 1 further comprising the step of: if an indication has not been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document, then repeating steps (a)-([e]f).
- 5. (Amended) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the step of performing formatting to place the insertion point in the electronic document comprises adding and deleting formatting properties from the electronic document.
- 6. (Amended) The method recited in Claim 1 wherein the step of [collecting context information regarding a location of a cursor in the electronic document] determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text is performed in response to a change in the location of the cursor.
- 10. (Amended) For an electronic system for creating and editing an electronic document, a method for displaying a cursor, the method comprising the steps of:
- (a) determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text;





([a] b) collecting context information regarding [a] the location of the cursor in the electronic document by:

if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text;

otherwise, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor;

- ([b] c) applying the collected context information to a database of a plurality of rules to determine whether the collected context information coincides with one of the plurality of rules:
- ([c] \underline{d}) if so, then determining one of a plurality of cursors associated with the coinciding rule; and

([d] e) displaying the associated cursor.

13. (Amended) The method recited in Claim 10 further comprising the step of repeating steps (a)-([d] e) as the cursor is moved around the electronic document.

15. (Amended) For an electronic system for creating and editing an electronic file, a method for adjusting the location of an insertion point in an electronic file to match the location of a cursor, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic file is positioned over existing text;

([a] b) collecting context information regarding [a] the location of [a] the cursor in the electronic file by:

if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text;

otherwise, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor;

- ([b] \underline{c}) applying the collected context information to a database of a plurality of rules to determine whether the collected context information coincides with one of the plurality of rules;
- ([c] \underline{d}) if so, then adjusting the location of the insertion point based upon the coinciding rule;
- ([d] e) determining whether the location of the insertion point matches the location of the cursor; and
 - ([e] \underline{f}) if not, then repeating steps (a)-([d] \underline{e}).

